#### NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Last Approved Date: January 8, 2007 January 15, 2008

Title 163 - Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Chapter 4 - Wildlife Regulations

006 Coots, Ducks, Geese, Crow

The following regulations are prescribed by the Game and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-314, 37-315, 37-405, 37-411, 37-428, 37-501, 37-508, 37-536, 37-563, 37-701. For purposes of these regulations, unless context otherwise requires, the definitions found in Chapter 37, sections 202 through 247 of the Game Law, are used. These regulations are effective following enactment by the Commission, approval by the Attorney General and Governor, and when five days have elapsed since filing with the Secretary of State.

#### 006.01 HUNTING SEASONS

<u>006.01A</u> Ducks and Mergansers (Zone and Management Unit boundaries in 006.01A5).

006.01A1 Open Season:

Low Plains

Zones 1 and 2 (Late): October 20 18 through 19, 2007 2008 and October 25 through January 14, 2008 2009.

Zones 3 and 4 (Early): October  $\frac{6}{11}$  through December  $\frac{16}{21}$ ,  $\frac{2007}{2008}$  and December  $\frac{22}{27}$  through December  $\frac{23}{28}$ ,  $\frac{2007}{2008}$ .

High Plains

October 6 <u>11</u> through December 16, 2007 and December 22, 2007 through January 14, 2008 2009.

<u>006.01A1a</u> Open Season: Canvasbacks and Pintails: To run concurrently with the first 39 days that are open to hunting for other ducks and mergansers (<u>006.01A1</u>) as specified for each unit or zone identified in 006.01A5.

006.01A2 Daily Bag Limit: Conventional System - Six Ducks. May include no more than: Five (5) mallards of which no more than two

(2) can be females, one (1) mottled duck, one (1) pintail during the season as noted in <u>006.01A1a</u>, one (1) canvasback during the season as noted in <u>006.01A1a</u>, two (2) redheads, one (1) scaup (greater and lesser combined), and two (2) wood ducks.

Mergansers: A daily bag of five (5), only two (2) of which may be a hooded merganser.

006.01A3 Possession Limit: Twice the daily
bag.

<u>006.01A4</u> Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

006.01A5 Management Unit Boundaries

006.01A5a Low Plains: Eastern part of state: That portion of Nebraska lying east of a line beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183, south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20, west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7, south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91, southwest on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2, southeast on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92, west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40, south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47, south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283 and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

O06.01A5a(1) Zone 1: That portion of Dixon County west of NE Hwy. 26E Spur and north of NE Hwy. 12; those portions of Cedar County north of NE Hwy. 12; Those portions of Knox County north of NE Hwy. 12 to intersection of Niobrara River; all of Boyd County; Keya Paha County east of U.S. Hwy. 183. Both banks of the Niobrara River in Keya Paha, Boyd, and Knox counties east of U.S. Hwy. 183 shall be included in Zone 1.

006.01A5a(2) Zone 2: Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways and political boundaries beginning at the Kansas-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 75 to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 136 and the Steamboat Trace (Trace); north along the Trace to the intersection with Federal Levee R-562; north along Federal Levee R-562 to the intersection with the Trace; north along Trace/Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to NE Hwy. 2; west to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to NE Hwy. 2; west to NE Hwy. 43; north to U.S. Hwy. 34; east to NE Hwy. 63; north and west to U.S. Hwy. 77; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 81; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to NE Hwy. South to County Road (Hamilton County); West to County Road "M" (Hamilton County); South to County Road 21 (Hamilton County); West to County Road "K" (Hamilton County); south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 2; south to U.S. Hwy. Iwest to Gunbarrel (Hall/Hamilton county line); south to Giltner Rd.; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 10; north to County Road "R" (Kearney County) and County Road #742 (Phelps County); west to County #438 (Gosper County line); south along County Road #438 (Gosper County line) to County Road #726 (Furnas County line); east to County Road #438 (Harlan County line); south to U.S. Hwy. 34; south and west to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE 14; south to the Kansas-Nebraska border, west to U.S. Hwy. 283; north to NE Hwy. 23; west to NE Hwy. 47; north to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to NE Hwy. 14; north to NE Hwy. 52; west and north to NE Hwy. 91; U.S. Hwy. 281; south to NE Hwy. 22; west to NE Hwy. 11; Northwest to NE

> Hwy. 91; west to Loup County line; east along northern boundaries of Loup, Garfield and Wheeler counties; south on the Wheeler-Antelope county line to NE Hwy. 70; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 39; southeast to NE Hwy. 22; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; southeast to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to Hwy. 75, north to Washington County line; east to the Iowa-Nebraska border; south along the Iowa-Nebraska border; to the beginning at U.S. Hwy. 75 at the Kansas-Nebraska border.

> 006.01A5a(3) Zone 3: Burt, Cuming, Dakota, Holt, Howard, Madison, Pierce, Rock, Sherman, Stanton, Thurston, Valley and Wayne counties; the Low Plains portion of Blaine, Brown, Custer and Dawson counties, excluding that part of Dawson County in Zone 2; plus those portions of Antelope, Boone, Buffalo, Cedar, Dixon, Dodge, Garfield, Colfax, Greeley, Hall, Knox, Loup, Merrick, Nance, Platte, Washington Wheeler counties not included in Zone 1 or 2.

> <u>006.01A5a(4)</u> Zone 4: Those parts of Adams, Butler, Cass, Franklin, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Kearney, Nemaha, Otoe, Phelps, Polk, Richardson and Saunders counties not included in Zone 2, that portion of Furnas County south of U.S. Hwy. 34 and north of U.S. Hwy. 136 together Clay, Fillmore, with Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nuckolls, Pawnee, Saline, Seward, Thayer, Webster and York counties.

006.01A5b <u>High Plains</u>: That part of the state which lies west of the boundary line delineated in <u>006.01A5a</u> above.

<u>006.01A5c</u> Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or

state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

<u>006.01B</u> Coot -- Management Unit Boundaries as described in <u>006.01A5a</u> through <u>006.01A5c</u>.

<u>006.01B1</u> Open Season:

Low Plains

Zones 1 and 2: To run concurrent with dates established in <a href="https://doi.org/10.0141">006.01A1</a>.

Zones 3 and 4: To run concurrent with dates established in <u>006.01A1</u>.

# <u>High Plains</u>:

To run concurrent with dates established in 006.01A1.

006.01B2 Daily Bag Limit: Fifteen (15). 006.01B3 Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag limit (30).

<u>006.01B4</u> Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

<u>006.01B5</u> Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

### 006.01C Geese

<u>006.01C1</u> Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese) - Zone boundaries are described in <u>006.01C1h</u>.

#### 006.01Cla Zone 1

October 6 11, 2007 2008 through January 6 11, 2008 2009 and January 26 through February 6, 2008 2009.

# <u>006.01C1b</u> Zone 2

006.01C1b(1) Open Season Dates: October 6 11, 2007 2008 through January 6 11, 2008 2009 and January 26 through February 6, 2008 2009.

# 006.01Clc Zone 3

006.01C1c(1) Open Season Dates: October 6 11, 2007 2008 through January 6 11, 2008 2009 and January 26 through February 6, 2008 2009.

<u>006.01Cld</u> Daily Bag Limit: Twenty (20).

006.01Cle Possession Limit: None.

<u>006.01C1f</u> Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

<u>006.01Clg</u> Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

# 006.01Clh Management Unit Boundaries

006.01Clh(1) Zone 1: The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of NE Hwy. 92 and NE Hwy. 15, south along NE Hwy. 15 to NE Hwy. 4, west along NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 281, north along U.S. Hwy. 281 to U.S. Hwy. 30, east along U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 14, south along NE Hwy. 14 to NE Hwy. 66, east along NE Hwy. 66 to U.S. Hwy. 81, north along U.S. Hwy. 81 to NE Hwy. 92 and east along NE Hwy. 92 to the beginning.

006.01C1h(2) Zone 2: The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 281 and U.S. Hwy. 30, south along U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy. 4, west along NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 34, west along U.S. Hwy. 34 to U.S. Hwy. 283, north along U.S. Hwy. 283 to U.S. Hwy. 30, east along U.S. Hwy. 30 to the beginning.

<u>006.01C1h(3)</u> Zone 3: Remainder of the State.

006.01C2 Dark Geese (Canada, Brant and all other goose species except white-fronted geese and those included as light geese) - Unit boundaries are described in 006.01C2a(4), 006.01C2b(4), 006.01C2c(4), 006.01C2c(4) and 006.01C2e(4).

# 006.01C2a Niobrara Unit

006.01C2a(1) Open Season Dates: October 20 25, 2007 2008 through October 21, 2007 and October 27, 2007 through February 6, 2008 2009.

006.01C2a(2) Daily Bag Limit: Three
(3) geese.

<u>006.01C2a(3)</u> Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag limit.

006.01C2a(4) Management Unit The area contained Boundary -within and bounded vd intersection of the South Dakota stateline and the Cherry County line, south along the Cherry County line to the Niobrara River, east to the Norden Road, south on the Norden Road to U.S. Hwy. 20, east along U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 137, north along NE Hwy. 137 to the Niobrara River, east along the Niobrara River to the Boyd County line, north along the Boyd County line to the South Dakota stateline. Where Niobrara River forms the boundary, both banks of the river shall be included in the Niobrara Unit.

# 006.01C2b East Unit

006.01C2b(1) Open Season Dates: October 20 25, 2007 2008 through January 23 28, 2008 2009.

006.01C2b(2) Daily Bag Limit: Three
(3) geese.

006.01C2b(3) Possession Limit:
Twice the daily bag limit.

006.01C2b(4) Management Unit Boundary -- The area of the state north and east of U.S. Hwy. 281 beginning at the Nebraska-Kansas border, north to Gunbarrel Road (at Doniphan), east to NE Hwy. 14, north to NE Hwy. 66, east to U.S. Hwy. 81, north to NE Hwy. 22, west to NE Hwy. 14, north to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. Hwy. 275, south to U.S. Hwy. 77, south to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. Hwy. 30, east to the Nebraska-Iowa border.

# 006.01C2c Platte River Unit

006.01C2c(1) Open Season Dates:
October 20 25, 2007 2008 through
October 21, 2007 and October 27,
2007 through February 6, 2008 2009.

006.01C2c(2) Daily Bag Limit; Three
(3) geese.

<u>006.01C2c(3)</u> Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag limit.

006.01C2c(4) Management Boundary -- All that part of the state north and west of U.S. Hwy. 281 beginning at the Nebraska-Kansas border, north to Giltner Road (at Doniphan), east to NE Hwy. 14, north to NE Hwy. 66, east to U.S. Hwy. 81, north to NE Hwy. 22, west to NE Hwy. 14, north to NE Hwy. 91, west along NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 11, north to the Garfield/Holt County line, west along the north border of Garfield, Loup, Blaine and Thomas counties to the Hooker County line, south along the Thomas/Hooker county lines to the McPherson County line, east along the south border of Thomas

County to the western line of Custer County, south along the Custer/Logan County line to NE Hwy. 92, west to U.S. Hwy. 83, north to NE Hwy. 92, west to NE Hwy. 61, north along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 2, west along NE Hwy. 2 to the corner formed by Garden - Grant - Sheridan counties, west along the north border of Garden, Morrill and Scotts Bluff counties to the intersection of the Interstate Canal, west along the Interstate Canal to the Wyoming border, excluding the Panhandle Unit as described in 006.01C2e(4).

# 006.01C2d North Central Unit

006.01C2d(2) Daily Bag Limit: Three (3) geese.

006.01C2d(3) Possession Limit:
Twice the daily bag limit.

006.01C2d(4) Management Unit Boundary -- That part of the state north of the Platte River and East units, and excluding that area described in 006.01C2a(4).

#### 006.01C2e Panhandle Unit

006.01C2e(1) Open Season Dates: November 10 8, 2007 2008 through February 6, 2008 2009.

006.01C2e(2) Daily Bag Limit: Three
(3) geese.

006.01C2e(3) Possession Limit: Twice
the daily bag limit.

006.01C2e(4) Management Unit Boundary: - All that part of the state north and west of NE Hwy. 23

beginning at the Nebraska-Colorado border, east to NE Hwy. 61, north to U.S. Hwy. 26, west to NE Hwy. 92, east to NE Hwy. 61, north along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 2, west along NE Hwy. 2 to the corner formed by Garden-Grant-Sheridan counties, west along the north border of Garden, Morrill and Scotts Bluff counties to the intersection of the Interstate Canal, west along Interstate Canal to the Wyoming border.

<u>006.01C2f</u> Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

### 006.01C3 White-Fronted Geese

006.01C3a Open Season Dates: October 6
11 through December 16 21, 2007 2008.

006.01C3b Daily Bag Limit: Two (2)
qeese.

<u>006.01C3c</u> Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag.

<u>006.01C3d</u> Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

<u>006.01C4</u> Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

# 006.01D Crow

<u>006.01D1</u> Open Season: October 1 through November 15 and January 20 through April 6.

006.01D2 Hours Open: 30 minutes before sunrise to 60 minutes after sunset except during waterfowl seasons when hours are concurrent with waterfowl shooting hours.

<u>006.01D3</u> Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

<u>006.01D4</u> Daily Bag and Possession Limit: No limit.

<u>006.01E</u> Crow - Public Nuisance/Health Hazard Order.

Buffalo, 006.01E1 In Dawson, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Lincoln and Phelps counties, the crow is concentrated in such a manner and number as to constitute a public nuisance and a health hazard and may be taken using methods authorized during firearm and archery seasons during the period November 16 through January 19 in addition to the regular hunting season dates. Shooting hours shall be in accordance with the regular crow hunting season as specified in regulations. None of the birds taken pursuant to this section, nor their plumage, shall be sold or offered for sale.

# 006.01F Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season

006.01F1 Eligibility: Youth 15 years of age or younger. Youth ages 12 through 15 must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. Youth younger than 12 must be accompanied by an adult at least 19 years old who possesses a valid Nebraska Small Game Permit. In neither case, the adult will not be allowed to shoot ducks, mergansers or coots.

<u>006.01F2</u> Species: Ducks, Geese, Mergansers and Coots.

 $\underline{006.01F3}$  Season Dates (Open Season): The Saturday and Sunday immediately following the close of the teal season in the Low Plains Zone ( $\underline{006.01G2a}$ ).

006.01F4 Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

<u>006.01F5</u> Daily Bag Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (<u>006.01A2</u>), coot (<u>006.01B2</u>) and goose (<u>006.01C1</u>, <u>006.01C2</u>, <u>006.01C3</u>) seasons.

006.01F6 Possession Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (006.01A3), coot (006.01B3) and goose (006.01C1, 006.01C2, 006.01C3) seasons.

<u>006.01F7</u> Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

# 006.01G Early Teal Season

<u>006.01G1</u>Species: Blue-winged, Green-winged, and Cinnamon Teal.

006.01G2 Season Dates (Open Season):

006.01G2a Low Plains Zone (described in 006.01G3a). Sixteen (16) consecutive days beginning the Saturday nearest September 109.

006.01G2b High Plains Zone (described in 006.01G3a). Nine (9) consecutive days beginning the Saturday nearest September 10.

O06.01G3 Area Open: That portion of the state south and west of a line beginning from the Iowa border west along U.S. Hwy 30, to NE Hwy 61, north to NE Hwy 92 (just north of Kingsley Dam), west to U.S. Hwy 26 to U.S. Hwy. 385, north to NE Hwy. L62A, west to U.S. Hwy. 26, and then west to the Wyoming border, except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

### 006.01G3a

Low Plains Zone - That part of the Area Open described above (006.01G3) that lies east of a line which begins at the juncture of U.S. Hwy. 30 and NE Hwy. 47 in Dawson County; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283, south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

High Plains Zone - That part of the Area Open described above (006.01G3) that lies

west of a line which begins at the juncture of U.S. Hwy. 30 and NE Hwy. 47 in Dawson County; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283, south on U.S. Hwy 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

006.01G4 Daily Bag Limit: Four (4) birds singly or in the aggregate of only those species listed in 006.01G1.

006.01G5 Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag.

006.01G6 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

006.01H Early Canada Goose Season

006.01H1 Species: Canada Geese.

<u>006.01H2</u> Season Dates (Open Season): September 8-16 6-14, 2007 2008.

O06.01H3 Area Open: That portion of the state south and west of a line beginning from the Iowa border west along U.S. Hwy. 30 to U.S. Hwy, 81, south to NE Hwy. 64, east to NE Hwy. 15, south to NE Hwy. 41, east to NE Hwy. 50, north to NE Hwy. 2, east to the Iowa border, except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

006.01H4 Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) birds.

006.01H5 Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag.

006.01H6 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

# 006.02 Conservation Actions

The Commission may establish conservation orders or similar wildlife management activities for the conservation of migratory bird populations provided such orders and/or actions are approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or an authorized

representative under 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 20.

### 006.02A Geese

006.02A1 Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese) - Zone boundaries are described in 006.01C1h.

006.02A1a Eligibility: Resident persons vears of age or older and nonresidents, regardless of. age, participating in a conservation action for the conservation of migratory bird populations shall possess Nebraska Small Game Hunting Permit, valid Nebraska Habitat Stamp, valid Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp, a Federal Waterfowl Stamp, and shall be registered in Nebraska for the Harvest Information Program (HIP), provided the requirement for the Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp shall begin January 1, 2006.

# 006.02A1b Zone 1

006.02A1b(1) Conservation Action Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (006.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through the Sunday nearest April 15.

<u>006.02A1b(2)</u> Beginning on the date specified in <u>006.02A1b(1)</u>, hunting of light geese is permitted only on Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Beginning on March 24, hunting is permitted on all days until the end of the Conservation Action as specified in <u>006.02A1b(1)</u>.

006.02Alb(3) Hunting of light geese is not permitted on the following lands owned, controlled or managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Springer WPA; Massie WPA, Hultine WPA, Wilkins

WPA, Pintail WMA, Verona WPA, Bluebill WMA, Eckhardt WPA, Nelson WPA, Kirkpatrick North WMA, and Swan Creek WMA.

006.02A1b(4) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy 14.

### 006.02A1c Zone 2

006.02Alc(1) Conservation Action Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (006.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through the Sunday nearest April 15.

006.02Alc(2) Beginning on the date specified in 006.02Alc(1), hunting of light geese is permitted only on Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Beginning on March 24, hunting is permitted on all days until the end of the Conservation Action as specified in 006.02Alc(1).

006.02Alc(3) Hunting of light geese is not permitted on the following lands owned, controlled or managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Funk WPA, Prairie Dog WPA, Bluestem WPA, Lindau WPA, and Clark WPA.

006.02Alc(4) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River. Beginning March 11 through the Sunday nearest April 15, hunting of light geese is not permitted within 5 miles of an area bounded by

the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River.

# 006.02A1d Zone 3

006.02Ald(1) Conservation Action Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (006.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through the Sunday nearest April 15.

006.02Ale Daily Bag Limit: None.

006.02A1f Possession Limit: None.

006.02Alg Shooting Hours: 30 minutes
before sunrise to 30 minutes after
sunset.

<u>006.02A1h</u> Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

006.02Alh(1) Beginning March 11 through the Sunday nearest April 15 within that portion of Zone 3 which is east of U.S. Hwy 283 and west of U.S. Hwy 281, hunting of light geese is not permitted within five (5) miles of an area bounded by the outermost channel of flowing water on the north side of the Platte River.

<u>006.02A1i</u> Use of Recorded or Amplified calls: Permitted only as defined in <u>001.02A3</u> and <u>001.02A3a</u>.

<u>006.02A1j</u> Baiting: Prohibited as described in <u>001.02A7</u>.

006.02Alk Transporting: Same as defined
in 001.02A9.

<u>006.02A11</u> Live Decoys: Prohibited as described in <u>001.02A5</u>.

006.02Alm Weapons Permitted: Same as those defined in State Statute 37-536 and prohibited in section 001.02A6. The use of shotguns capable of holding more than three shells in magazine and chamber combined: Permitted only as defined in 001.02A4a.

 $\underline{006.02A1n}$  Nontoxic Shot: Same as those defined in  $\underline{011.01}$  and  $\underline{011.02}$ .